National Seminar of Good Practice among Indigenous People marks the efforts of dialogue to benefit tuberculosis control for this population

On August 28 and 29, it was held in Brasilia the first National Seminar of Good Practice among Indigenous People. In addition to promoting share of experiences, the seminar gathered indigenous leaders and representatives, civil society, government and experts to build in accordance a dialogue that aims strengthening the health systems in this population. The event gathered about 200 participants.

NTP representative, Josué Lima affirmed the importance of including specific measures and actions that reflect the reality of indigenous people and that are favorable to TB control among these people.

The National Indigenous Foundation (FUNAI) coordinator, Patricia Neves highlighted some aspects of protection and promotion of indigenous people’s rights and policies, and also the challenges and progress over the last years.

Mariana Amorim, the Primary Health Care coordinator from the Indigenous Health Secretary (SESAI) explained “SESAI is well articulated with the Unified Health System (SUS) and the services are decentralized among the Indigenous Special Health Districts (DSEI), the health bases in the tribes, the health stations for the indigenous communities and the indigenous health houses”.

She also stressed the need to raise efforts among the different sector into health actions, involving programmes, systems and health public policies.

The indigenous representative Fernando Terena underlined that through opportunities such as this their population feels motivated to expose
their problems and take part in the health policies dialogue, despite the constant conflicts they face.

During the two days of the event, stakeholders shared successful experiences, challenges, epidemiologic situation, as well as studies that contribute to the strengthening of TB control actions in the indigenous populations. The event was a historic mark for the country as it gathered the three different spheres of government, civil society, indigenous representatives and experts in the dialogue of health policies to favour indigenous people.